REMARKS:

Claims 1, 9, 11, 13, 16-17, and 22-26 are in the case and presented for consideration.

The Office has indicated that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the P2001-3603 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b). Applicants have included a copy of the stamped postcard with the certified copy of the P2001-3603 application highlighted as well as a copy of the cover of the certified copy. Therefore, applicants believe that a certified copy of the priority document was submitted when the application was filed. Applicants request that the Office check its records.

The justification format of the specification was objected to as causing certain parts of the specification to be difficult to read. The undersigned had discussed this matter with the examiner on July 8, 2005 and per that discussion, the undersigned has submitted a substitute specification in which the formatting has been corrected. In addition, the title has been corrected to replace the word "sever" with the word "server". A marked up copy of the substitute specification has been provided showing the change to the title. No new matter was added.

Claims 2-8, 10, 12, 14-15, and 18-21 have been canceled.

Claims 2 and 7, which were directed to a client, preceded claims 9, 11, and 13, which are directed to a server and depend from claim 1. Therefore, applicants have rewritten claims 2 and 7 as new claims 25 and 26. Claims 25 and 26 have been rewritten with some changes as described further below. Thus, claims 9, 11, and 13 now directly follow independent claim 1. Claims 1, 9, 11, and 13 are one set of claims directed to a server. Claims 25-26 are a separate set of claims directed to a client.

Applicants have also added a new set of claims 22-24. Independent claim 22 recites a combination of the elements of claims 1 and 2. Claim 23 is supported by the specification on page 10, lines 9-17. Claim 24 is supported by the specification on page 9, lines 9-14. Claims 1-8 and 13-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,721,886 to Uskela.

Claims 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious from Uskela '886 in view of U.S. Patent 6,487,667 to Brown.

The point of the present invention is that the response to the challenge is generated using an operation unique to the client.

The unique operation is held only by the corresponding client device, so that other client devices cannot generate the correct response and can never pretend to be the authorized client device.

In this regard, the claims have been rewritten as follows.

Independent claim 1 now recites, "the response is calculated based on <u>a unique operation for the client</u>, and access privilege proving data created from a private key corresponding to the public key." (emphasis added).

Independent claim 16 now recites, "the response is calculated based on a unique operation for the client."

Independent claim 17 now recites, "the unique operation is unique to the client."

Independent claim 22 now recites, "a unique operation executor that executes a unique operation assigned to the client."

Also, independent claim 25 now recites "a response generator that generates a response to a challenge, the challenge being received from the server, and wherein the

response is calculated based on the result of <u>the unique operation</u> and the access privilege providing data, and <u>the unique operation is unique to the client</u>." (emphasis added).

In contrast, Uskela '886 only discloses a secure system in which a service provider sends a random number as a challenge to a user, the user enciphers the random number by the user's private key to produce the response, and then the provider deciphers the response by the user's public key and compares the deciphered response against the challenge.

In Uskela '886, if the user's private key is copied for unauthorized use, there is no means to prevent its unauthorized use. That is, Uskela '886 does not teach or suggest an operation which is unique to the client, so that as a direct result, the user's private key cannot be used by others.

Nor does Brown '667 teach or suggest an operation which is unique to the client.

Since neither Uskela '886 or Brown '667 teach or suggest at least one limitation recited in claim 1, claim 1 is deemed to be patentable.

All claims which depend from independent claims 1, 22, and 25 are deemed to be patentable for at least the same reasons described above.

In summary, none of the prior art discloses the use of an operation unique to each client, which prevents unauthorized access using an unauthorized copy of data, such as for example, a user's private key.
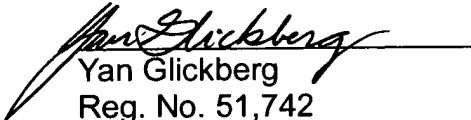
Therefore, the present invention is patentably distinguishable over the prior art.

Accordingly, the application and claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and favorable action is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added.

If any issues remain which may be resolved by telephonic communication, the

Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the number below, if such will advance the application to allowance.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

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